

## Office of Chief Lee W. Russo

3575 South Market Street, West Valley City, Utah, 84119

## WVCPD "Elves" Wrap Hundreds of Gifts for Low Income Kids

DATE: December 15, 2014

**CONTACT:** Roxeanne Vainuku, Public Information Officer

Office: (801) 965-7678 Mobile: (801) 509-1375

Roxeanne.vainuku@wvc-ut.gov

Hundreds of gifts, thousands of feet of wrapping paper and wishes come true for dozens of West Valley City children. It all comes together this Wednesday at the annual Giving Tree gift wrapping day. This year, the Giving Tree program will provide gifts for 164 children from 53 low income verified West Valley City families. Each child started with a list of needed items and holiday wishes. Santa's helpers from the West Valley City Police Department, local businesses and the community have worked hard to fill those lists. You're invited to join us as we wrap all of the gifts to be delivered.

The Giving Tree program was started by the West Valley City Police Department's Community Services section, now known as Community Response Unit. The program started with officers recognizing need in the community they serve and acting to help individual families. Over the years, the program has expanded to include as many as 70 families in a single year. The department now coordinates with a local organization that works with low-income families in the city to choose names for the tree.

What: Giving Tree Gift Wrapping Day

Where: Valley Fair Mall, 3601 South 2700 West

When: Wednesday, December 17, 2014, 8:30am-until finished, usually by 11am

NOTE: The wrapping will take place in a portion of the mall not currently in use. Please ask the information booth for directions to the area or call Roxeanne at 801-509-1375. Also, for photographers, the lighting in the wrapping area is not the best. You may want to supplement with your own lighting.